

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

1. (Previously presented) A method for decreasing ghrelin levels in a person or other mammal in need thereof comprising: administering to a person or other mammal a composition comprised of hydroxycitric acid in an amount sufficient to decrease ghrelin levels in the person or other mammal.

2-8 (Canceled).

9. (Original) A method as defined in claim 1, wherein the hydroxycitric acid is derived from a plant of the genus *Garcinia*.

10. (Original) A method as defined in claim 1, wherein the hydroxycitric acid is derived from the plant *Garcinia cambogia*.

11. (Original) A method as defined in claim 1, wherein hydroxycitric acid administered is approximately 900 milligrams to approximately 4,500 milligrams daily.

12.-17. (Canceled).

18. (Original) A method as defined in claims 1, wherein hydroxycitric acid administered is approximately 2,000 milligrams to approximately 3,500 milligrams daily.

19.-24 (Canceled).

25. (Original) A method as defined in claim 1, wherein the hydroxycitric acid administered is approximately 2,700 milligrams to approximately 2,800 milligrams daily.

26.-31. (Canceled).

32. (Previously presented) A method as defined in claim 1, wherein the hydroxycitric acid administered is administered in three substantially equally divided doses three times a day, approximately 30 to 60 minutes before the person or other mammal consumes a meal.

33.-35. (Canceled)

36. (Original) A method as defined in claim 1, wherein the composition further comprises one or more of the following: gymnemic acid, green tea extract, and chromium.

37. (Original) A method as defined in claim 36, wherein, if the composition comprises chromium, the chromium administered is niacin-bound chromium.

38. (Original) A method as defined in claim 36, wherein, if the composition comprises gymnemic acid, the gymnemic acid administered is derived from a plant of the genus *Gymnema*.

39. (Original) A method as defined in claim 36, wherein, if the composition comprises:

gymnemic acid, the gymnemic acid administered is derived from *Gymnema sylvestre*.

40. (Original) A method as defined in claim 36, wherein, if the composition comprises green tea extract, the green tree extract administered comprises one or more of the following: epigallocatechin gallate, caffeine and theanine.

41. (Original) A method as defined in claim 36, wherein, if the composition comprises gymnemic acid, the gymnemic acid administered is approximately 10 milligrams to approximately 1,000 milligrams daily, if the composition comprises green tea extract, the green tea extract administered is approximately 20 milligrams to 2000 milligrams daily and, if the composition comprises chromium, the chromium administered is approximately 10 micrograms to approximately 1,000 micrograms daily.

42. (Previously presented) A method as defined in claim 1, wherein composition further comprises one or more of the following: approximately 400 micrograms of chromium, approximately 100 milligrams of gymnemic acid and approximately 400 milligrams of epigallocatechin gallate.

43. (Previously presented) A method of reducing and maintaining body weight in a person or other mammal in need thereof by decreasing ghrelin levels in the person or other mammal comprising: administering to a person or other mammal in need of reducing or maintaining body weight a composition comprised of hydroxycitric acid in an amount sufficient to decrease ghrelin levels in the person or other mammal.

44.-50. (Canceled).

51. (Original) A method as defined in claim 43, wherein the hydroxycitric acid is derived from a plant of the genus *Garcinia*.

52. (Original) A method as defined in claim 43, wherein the hydroxycitric acid is derived from the plant *Garcinia cambogia*

53. (Original) A method as defined in claims 43, wherein hydroxycitric acid administered is approximately 900 milligrams to approximately 4,500 milligrams daily.

54.-59. (Canceled).

60. (Original) A method as defined in claims 43, wherein hydroxycitric acid administered is approximately 2,000 milligrams to approximately 3,500 milligrams daily.

61.-66. (Canceled).

67. (Original) A method as defined in claim 43, wherein the hydroxycitric acid administered is approximately 2,700 milligrams to approximately 2,800 milligrams daily.

68.-73. (Canceled).

74. (Previously presented) A method as defined in claim 43, wherein the hydroxycitric acid administered is administered in three substantially equally divided doses three times a day, approximately 30 to 60 minutes before the person or other mammal consumes a meal.

75.-77. (Canceled).

78. (Previously presented) A method of reducing and maintaining body weight in a person or other mammal in need thereof by decreasing ghrelin levels in the person or other mammal comprising; administering to a person or other mammal in need of reducing or maintaining body weight a composition comprised of hydroxycitric acid in an amount sufficient to decrease ghrelin levels in the person or other mammal, wherein the composition further comprises one or more of the following: gymnemic acid, green tea extract, and chromium.

79. (Original) A method as defined in claim 78, wherein, if the composition comprises chromium, the chromium administered is niacin-bound chromium.

80. (Original) A method as defined in claim 78, wherein, if the composition comprises gymnemic acid, the gymnemic acid administered is derived from a plant of the genus *Gymnema*.

81. (Original) A method as defined in claim 78, wherein, if the composition comprises gymnemic acid, the gymnemic acid administered is derived from *Gymnema sylvestre*.

82. (Original) A method as defined in claim 78, wherein, if the composition comprises green tea extract, the green tea extract administered comprises one or more of the following: epigallocatechin gallate, caffeine and theanine.

83. (Original) A method as defined in claim 78, wherein, if the composition comprises gymnemic acid, the gymnemic acid administered is approximately 10 milligrams to approximately 1,000 milligrams daily, if the composition comprises green tea extract, the green tea extract administered is approximately 20 milligrams to 2000 milligrams daily and, if the composition comprises chromium, the chromium administered is approximately 10 micrograms to approximately 1,000 micrograms daily.

84. (Previously presented) A method as defined in claim 78, wherein the composition further comprises one or more of the following: approximately 400 micrograms of chromium, approximately 100 milligrams of gymnemic acid and approximately 400 milligrams of epigallocatechin gallate.

85. (Currently amended) A composition for decreasing ghrelin levels in a person or other mammal comprising: hydroxycitric acid in an amount sufficient to decrease the ghrelin levels in the person or other mammal, wherein the hydroxycitric acid ~~is bound to~~ comprises a dual salt with calcium and potassium.

86.-92. (Canceled).

93. (Original) A composition of claim 85, wherein the hydroxycitric acid is derived from a plant of the genus *Garcinia*.

94. (Original) A composition of claim 85, wherein the hydroxycitric acid is derived from the plant *Garcinia cambogia*.

95. (Currently amended) A composition of claim 85, wherein the amount of hydroxycitric acid ~~sufficient to decrease the ghrelin levels~~ is approximately 900 milligrams to approximately 4,500 milligrams.

96. (Currently amended) A composition of claim 85, wherein the amount of hydroxycitric acid ~~sufficient to decrease the ghrelin levels~~ is approximately 2,000 milligrams to approximately 3,500 milligrams.

97. (Currently amended) A composition of claim 85, wherein the amount of hydroxycitric acid ~~sufficient to decrease the ghrelin levels~~ is approximately 2,700 milligrams to approximately 2,800 milligrams.

98. (Original) A composition of claim 85, wherein the composition further comprises one or more of the following: gymnemic acid, green tea extract and chromium.

99. (Original) A composition of claim 98, wherein, if the composition comprises chromium, the chromium is niacin-bound chromium.

100. (Original) A composition of claim 98, wherein, if the composition comprises gymnemic acid, the gymnemic acid is derived from a plant of the genus *Gymnema*.

101. (Original) A composition of claim 98, wherein, if the composition comprises gymnemic acid, the gymnemic acid is derived from *Gymnema sylvestre*.

102. (Original) A composition of claim 98, wherein, if the composition comprises green tea extract, the green tree extract comprises one or more of the following: epigallocatechin gallate, caffeine and theanine.

103. (Currently amended) A composition of claim 98, wherein, if the composition comprises g gymnemic acid, it comprises approximately 10 milligrams to approximately

1,000 milligrams of gymnemic acid, if the composition comprises green tea extract, it comprises approximately 20 milligrams to 2000 milligrams of green tea extract and, if the composition comprises chromium, it comprises approximately 10 micrograms to approximately 1,000 micrograms of chromium.

104. (Original) A composition of claim 98, wherein composition further comprises one or more of the following: approximately 400 micrograms of chromium, approximately 100 milligrams of gymnemic acid and approximately 400 milligrams of epigallocatechin gallate.

105. (Previously presented) A method as defined in claim 1, wherein the hydroxycitric acid comprises a dual salt with calcium and potassium.

106. (Currently amended) A method as defined in claim 43, wherein the hydroxycitric acid is comprises a dual salt with calcium and potassium.